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CUSTOMER NUMBER 25267

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PATENT APPLICATION

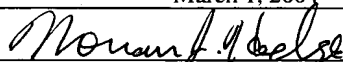
*IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE*

Group: Unknown  
Atty. Docket: 8266-1201  
Applicants: Osbourne et al.  
Invention: HOSPITAL BED  
Serial No.: 10/731,720  
Filed: December 9, 2003  
Examiner: Unknown

Certificate Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on March 1, 2004

  
Norman J. Hedges

Dated: 3-1-04

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This statement is filed in the application identified above pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. Applicant calls attention to the art references within the knowledge of applicant and its attorney which are listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. No representation is intended that a complete search has been made or that no better art references are available. The filing of this statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to the patentability as defined in 1.56(b).

The references listed on the PTO Form 1449 are either U.S. patents or published patent applications and/or were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in prior application Serial No. 09/750,741, filed December 29, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,658,680, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, in accordance with the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) announced in the August 5, 2003 Official Gazette and 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), copies of these cited references are not being supplied with this Information Disclosure Statement.

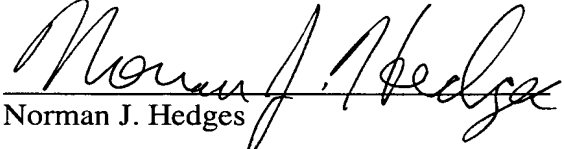
REMARKS

None of the art cited on the attached PTO Form 1449 is believed to disclose or suggest the invention recited in the claims of the above-identified application. It is therefore believed that the claimed invention is patentably distinguishable over these references.

Please charge any fees that might be due in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Bose McKinney & Evans LLP's Deposit Account No. 02-3223. An extra copy of this Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

BOSE McKINNEY & EVANS LLP

  
Norman J. Hedges

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FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY DOCKET NO.  
8266-1201SERIAL NO.  
10/731,720INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
(Use several sheets if necessary)APPLICANT  
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Unknown

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPLICABLE
	AA	4,484,367	11/27/1984	Jenkins			
	AB	4,612,679	09/23/1986	Mitchell			
	AC	4,680,790	07/14/1987	Packard			
	AD	5,097,550	03/24/1992	Marra, Jr.			
	AE	5,191,663	03/09/1993	Holder et al.			
	AF	5,222,132	06/22/1993	Rioux, Jr.			
	AG	5,235,258	08/10/1993	Schuerch			
	AH	5,255,403	10/26/1993	Ortiz			
	AI	5,542,136	08/06/1996	Tappel			
	AJ	5,715,548	02/10/1998	Weismiller et al.			
	AK	5,737,781	04/14/1998	Votel			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	AL	WO 00/69386	11/23/2000	PCT				
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							
	AQ							

## OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPLICABLE
	BA	5,802,640	09/08/1998	Ferrand et al.			
	BB	5,878,452	03/09/1999	Brooke et al.			
	BC	6,008,598	12/28/1999	Luff et al.			
	BD	3,977,664	08/31/1976	Mitchell et al.			
	BE	4,038,709	08/02/1977	Kerwit			
	BF	4,183,015	01/08/1980	Drew et al.			
	BG	4,195,829	04/01/1980	Reser			
	BH	5,175,897	01/05/1993	Marra, Jr.			
	BI	5,279,010	01/18/1994	Ferrand et al.			
	BJ	5,732,423	03/03/1998	Van Slyke			
	BK	5,906,016	05/25/1999	Ferrand et al.			

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	BL							
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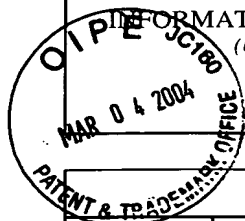
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	CA	5,906,017	05/25/1999	Ferrand et al.			
	CB	6,163,903	12/26/2000	Weismiller et al.			
	CC	6,182,310	02/06/2001	Weismiller et al.			
	CD	6,185,767	02/13/2001	Brooke et al.			
	CE	6,208,250	03/27/2001	Dixon et al.			
	CF	2001/0011393	08/09/2001	Brooke et al.			
	CG	2001/0029628	10/18/2001	Ferrand et al.			
	CH	2001/0032362	03/14/2001	Welling et al.			
	CI	6,320,510	11/20/2001	Menkedick et al.			
	CJ	6,336,235	01/08/2002	Ruehl			
	CK	3,220,021	11/30/1965	Nelson			

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	CL							
	CM							
	CN							
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	CQ							

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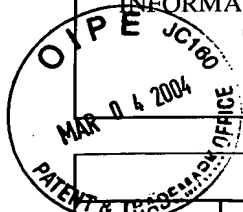
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	DA	2002/0059679	05/23/2002	Weismiller et al.			
	DB	5,577,280	11/26/1996	Elliott			
	DC	2002/0080037	06/27/2002	Dixon et al.			
	DD	6,438,776	08/27/2002	Ferrand et al.			
	DE	2001/0027578	10/11/2001	Brooke et al.			
	DF	6,473,921	11/05/2002	Brooke et al.			
	DG	6,481,688	11/19/2002	Welling et al.			
	DH	6,486,792	11/26/2002	Moster et al.			
	DI	2003/0019038	01/30/2003	Welling et al.			
	DJ	2003/0051291	03/20/2003	Brooke et al.			
	DK	2003/0051292	03/20/2003	Ferrand et al.			

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	DN							
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	DP							
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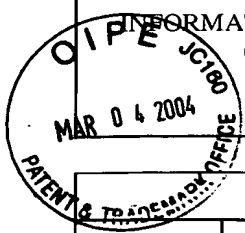
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	EA	5,708,997	01/20/1998	Foster et al.			
	EB	5,230,113	07/27/1993	Foster et al.			
	EC	4,847,929	07/18/1989	Pupovic			
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	EP							
	EQ							

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